

## **Artificial Den Designs**

### Escape Dens (Fig. 1)

Designed to provide escape cover for kit foxes.

Dens consist of a 10-20 ft long length of pipe placed on the surface of the ground and covered with several inches of dirt to provide thermal insulation.

### Chambered Dens (Fig. 2)

Designed to provide escape cover and diurnal resting cover for kit foxes, and also provides a chamber for resting or reproduction.

Dens consist of a chamber buried approximately 3 ft deep with two 5-7 ft long entrance pipes leading into the den box.

## **Artificial Den Materials**

### Escape Dens and Den Tunnels

8"-diameter PVC pipe or corrugated plastic pipe

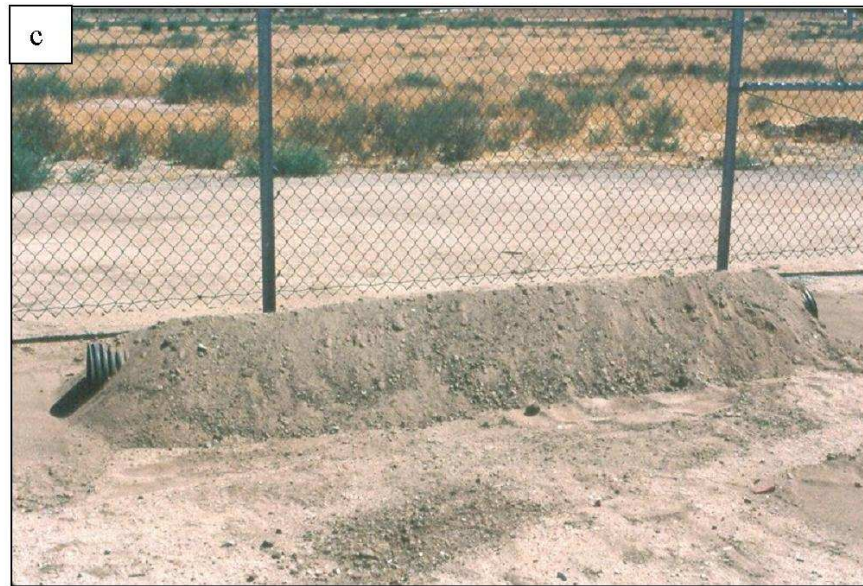
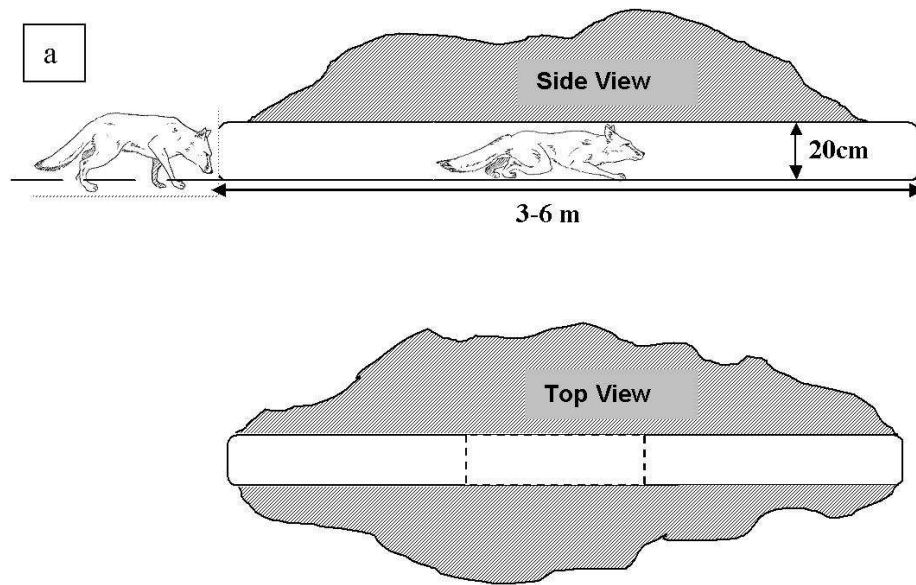
Strips can be cut from the bottom of the pipes to facilitate drainage.

### Den Chambers

Plastic irrigation valve boxes (approximately 20-30" long, 15-20" wide, 15-20" tall)

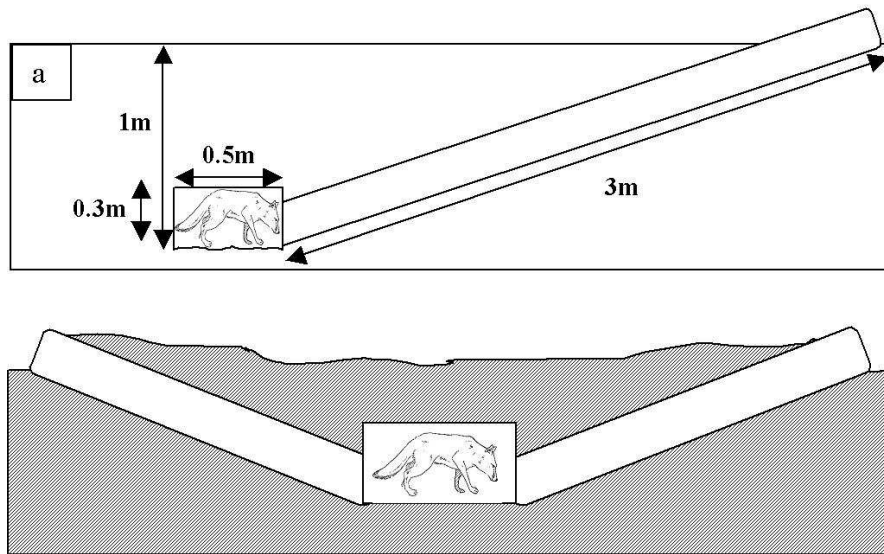
Igloo-style dog house (for "small" dogs - approximately 30" diameter at base, 24" tall)

Both chamber designs have open bottoms. Holes are cut into the sides of the chambers where tunnel pipes enter.



**Figure 1. Artificial escape dens for San Joaquin kit fox at Bakersfield, CA. a) Escape den schematic. b) High-density polyethylene escape den under construction. c) Completed den. d) Kit fox entering escape den.**





**Figure 2. Artificial subterranean dens for San Joaquin kit fox at Bakersfield, CA. a) Artificial den schematic. b) PVC two-entrance chamber den under construction. c) High-density polyethylene two-entrance den. d) PVC tunnel with floor removed longitudinally.**



**Figure 1. Kit fox pups at artificial subterranean dens at a golf course (a) and drainage basin (b) in Bakersfield, CA.**